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Thailand

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Price Update

2004

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Report Highlights:

Export prices increased significantly in response to the stronger Thai Baht.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Bangkok [TH1]
[TH]

Indicative Price (Week Ending Jan 5):

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	515	495	511	533	475	490	510	504	487
WR 100 B	206	210	209	217	208	209	209	210	206
PB 5%	193	194	198	203	206	205	199	200	197
WR 5%	201	205	201	208	202	203	204	203	200
WR 10%	198	201	197	204	199	199	199	200	196
WR 15%	194	197	192	202	195	195	194	196	192
WR 25%	188	192	190	199	188	187	189	190	187
WR 35%	186	187	187	197	185	183	184	187	183
A 1 SUP	166	169	164	168	165	164	163	166	165
A 1 SPEC	163	167	163	166	164	-	161	164	164
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

Market Tone

Export prices for most grades of rice increased significantly due mainly to the stronger Thai Baht. Most current quotations are reportedly based on 39.0 Baht/US dollar, as compared to around 39.5 Baht/US\$ for the previous weeks. Trade sources reported that new market demand for white rice remains quiet, as buyers were waiting for the new crop of Vietnamese rice, which is coming on to the market in the next two months. Also, fragrant rice exports are just for outstanding contracts.

The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
NOV 23	146,044	136,158	4,605	5,383
NOV 30	143,301	134,241	4,748	5,492
DEC 7	86,287	124,604	4,834	5,543
DEC 14	117,731	123,341	4,952	5,607
DEC 21	102,416	112,434	5,054	5,700
DEC 28	150,601	114,259	5,205	5,789
DEC 31	91,115	-	5,299	5,792
JAN 4	6,950	-	6,950	9,895

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports for Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2003, totaled 5,299,111 tons, compared with 5,792,412 tons (including fragrant rice) during the same period in 2002.

According to the Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – Dec. 22, 2003 amounted to 7,260,035 tons, up 2.8 percent from 7,065,108 tons in 2002.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Dec. 15-19, Dec. 22-26 and Dec 29-31, 2003 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Dec. 15-19	Dec. 22-26	Dec. 29-31
weekly sales	116,790	205,502	82,128
4 week sum	427,881	547,127	521,228
4 week mov avg.	106,970	136,782	130,307
Total weekly sales	5,347,457	5,552,959	5,635,087

End of Report.